



Family First: Your Step-by-Step Plan for Creating a Phenomenal Family

Phillip C. McGraw

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From Dr. Phil's Letter to Parents:

I want to talk to you about family: yours and mine. I know and feel that as parents, you and I share some very important priorities. Just like you, I love my family more than anything in this world and I want us all to be safe, healthy, happy and prosperous in everything we do both within our family and as we go out into the world. Cynics will tell you that in our fast-paced society "family" is becoming obsolete, that it is just an old-fashioned, lost concept, getting buried in a busy world of "enlightened" people. I'm here to tell you that that is not right, not even close. Family is even more important today than in generations past, and its erosion is unacceptable. This is a fight we can and must win. This is a fight we will win if we just do our homework and plug in. What I intend to do in Family First is tell you with great precision what you need to stop doing and what you need to start doing to lead your family with such a pure purpose and power that the competing messages and influences are drowned out. I plan to help you define success and then take the steps to create and claim it for you and yours. Your children are the stars in your crown and it is time for them to shine; it is okay for them to shine and, if you do your job, shine they will. -- Dr. Phil

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From Reader Review Family First: Your Step-by-Step Plan for Creating a Phenomenal Family for online ebook

Jaime says

What a schmuck (me--for even picking this book up for free). It's clearly written to capitalize on his new notoriety and is largely repetitive soapboxing of arrogance interspersed with DUH! common sense. Some narrow-sighted 'quizes' are also included. He had a couple of points that were good reminders for me, but I should've read them from a parenting book whose philosophy I'm behind. Suck it, Dr. Phil.

Rita Wayne says

This is not the first time I have read this one. I love dr. phil and agree with him on most everything. Lots of work involved in this book if you do it correctly but I think we could all work on ourselves.

Henrik says

SEPTEMBER 2015: Still a good book doing what it aims at doing.

AUGUST 2011: Now that our daughter is two years old I thought I'd better re-read this again, as she is now at the age where it is relevant;-) Will be interesting if I think the same this time around.

2008:

By the end of the year we're going to have a child, so I thought I better start learning something... I am barely halfway into the book, but so far, so good. Yes, it is fairly light reading--but sometimes that's a good thing;-) Light doesn't always entail you can't learn a thing or two (or ten or fifty, hehe)...

More later, when I've read it from cover to cover...

Later, JUNE 24:

Definitely a good read. It does what it is supposed to do: Give some good pointers what to take into consideration--and, importantly, do and not-do--when the time comes to raise children and have a family. It is demanding for the parents! All told in a straight, easily understood language and in a way that makes sense.

I also liked that he is neither condencending nor judgmental beyond the obvious. And he is very open to the fact that some people may not buy into all of it, yet hopefully it can still inspire and raise awareness.

And that it did. So I can only recommend it:-)

Laura says

Dr. Phil words things the way I wish I could, know what I mean? On his show, he knows just how to read two people barking at each other and just how to help them. It's unrealistic to assume every guest swallows his 30-second life-changing advice at the very end and walks away hugging relatives and chasing butterflies, but I still like hearing him out.

So listening to this audio book was helpful. Family first. Amen to that. I particularly was intrigued by his references to his own childhood and, despite his father's horrible actions, he still managed to speak well of him. It speaks well to Dr. Phil's character that he did this because he later advised his readers with hurtful parents or ex-spouses to not speak ill of them in front of the kids.

Wisely said, doctor.

Stephanie says

I got a lot of good ideas from this book, things to try in my family and to try to improve myself. Good reading, if you like Dr Phil's style. I even highlighted parts that I want to really work on, remember and put into practice, and now I am going to do a quick-reference notebook or something :)

Penelope says

yes I admit I read Dr.Phil books.

Oznasia says

In this book Dr Phil tells you how to raise a phenomenal family. And guess what? It's not going to be easy. If you are committed, you can do it. Even if your family is in a mess right now he tells you how to set it straight. But I have to wonder how many are prepared to put in the necessary work.

Read this book **before** you decide to have a family. If it doesn't put you off then go ahead.

Cindy says

I've learned a lot about being flexible with my parenting style. I think alot of the book had common sense advice but still great reminders. I especially liked the last two chapters on focusing on what qualities are most important to you in your family.

Lindsey says

I'm not a huge Dr. Phil fan so I was skeptical in reading this. It was a good, light read with some key points in there you can take to heart. I do like the interactive assessments he has that allow you to find your parenting style and the personality type of your child/children. It is nice when you can personalize his suggestions for your family based on those. He has some good reflection questions that allow you to evaluate your parenting skills and set goals for changes you might wish to make. Overall I give this two and a half stars.

GardenSinger says

There was definitely some good info in here for parenting your everyday child and managing a family.

However, much of the advice/strategies were not applicable to our situation...a child diagnosed with ADHD will not respond/change based on these data. It did help me to study our child and our parenting styles and begin to analyze our own particular needs as a family.

Aasim Waheed says

Dr. Phil's logic makes good sense to me. In all of his books I've read, I didn't see anything that was difficult to implement, or for which logic was complex. For me this book was an easy read since nothing came as a surprise to me, only as good ideas or in some cases good reminders.

The book says "Family" First but actually it talks mostly about relationship of parents with kids. If you have any difficulties with your kids, or even if you dont, this book can be a good help.

My rating: 9/10

Tiffany Buckendahl says

Lots of exersizes & assessment solutions for specific problems & the steps you need to take. How we as parents are our childrens models & the fact that most of us are failing at this. Mostly the book has a lot of good sound advice, some I did disagree with. Like for example if the parents are neat the child will be too.

Bobbie Grob says

I am a big fan of Dr. Phil and his straightforward advice. This book offers a lot of useful information and, while the tips and advice did not really pertain to my family, reading this book made me feel that I already have a phenomenal family.

Allison Fetch says

It really did take me a year and a half to finish this one...I wish I'd stuck with it because the tools he describes in the second half of the book are true gems. I have seen every episode of Dr Phil ever filmed, I think, and this book was very much like a distillment of his family advice, but with a lot of workbook activities added in. Invaluable info in my opinion, especially if dealing with difficult family dynamics but also useful even if things are rolling along pretty well. He asks you to confront some of your own past truths and dig into some painful personal history, which really helps get at the root of problems so that they can be fully addressed. A great advice book.

Tamara Minawi says

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